

Who We Are

A bipartisan commission of the U.S. House of Representatives, the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) works to support the development of effective, independent, and responsive legislatures around the world. Using peer-to-peer exchanges, trainings, and targeted technical assistance, the commission enhances accountability, transparency, access to information, and government oversight worldwide. HDP is currently led by Chairman Vern Buchanan (R-FL), and Ranking Member Dina Titus (D-NV).



Our History



Inspired by the Frost-Solomon taskforce that supported emerging European legislatures from 1990-1996, Representatives David Drier (R-CA) and David Price (D-NC) collaborated to revive and expand its mission in 2005. In March of that year, the House of Representatives voted to establish the House Democracy Assistance Commission. In 2009, the Commission was renamed the House Democracy Partnership, or HDP, to better reflect the evolving relationships between maintains a global portfolio of legislatures through a variety of programs and initiatives with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Republican Institute (IRI), and the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

Partner Legislatures



Our Approach to Strengthening Legislatures



Budgetary Issues

House members, staff, and Congressional Budget Office experts work with legislatures to build their capacity to provide oversight and amend federal budgets.



Committee Operations

House members and staff share information with legislative committee chairs, members, and clerks on mechanisms to ensure effective oversight such as public hearings.



Constituent Engagement & Services

House members and staff share information with members of partner legislatures on communicating with constituents, responding to constituent inquiries and handling casework.



Oversight

Effective oversight is one of the most important functions of a strong and independent legislature. House members and staff work with their counterparts to improve the review, monitoring, and supervision of the Executive branch.



Ethics

House members and staff, including those of the House Ethics Committee, share information with partners on the establishment and implementation of legislative codes of ethics.



Information Services

Congressional information technology (IT) experts share information with legislative staff on the use of IT to establish legislative information services or other systems that disseminate information about the legislature's work and improve legislators' and the public's access to information.



Legislative Procedure

Members and staff from the House Rules Committee, legislative counsel, House Parliamentarian's office and Congressional Research Service share information with members of parliament and staff of partner legislatures on legislative drafting and parliamentary procedure.



Libraries and Research Services

Specialists from the Congressional Research Service and Library of Congress collaborate to establish and support legislative libraries and research services.

HDP Members

Majority

Rep. Vern Buchanan, Florida,
Chairman

Rep. Adrian Smith, Nebraska

Rep. Darin LaHood, Illinois

Rep. Mike Kelly, Pennsylvania

Rep. Neal Dunn, Florida

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick,
Pennsylvania

Rep. David Kustoff, Tennessee

Rep. Kevin Hern, Oklahoma

Rep. Bryan Steil, Wisconsin

Rep. Claudia Tenney, New
York

Rep. Anna Paulina Luna,
Florida

Minority

Rep. Dina Titus, Nevada,
Ranking Member

Rep. Gwen Moore, Wisconsin

Rep. Ted Lieu, California

Rep. Norma Torres, California

Rep. Robin Kelly, Illinois

Rep. Terri Sewell, Alabama

Rep. Diana Degette, Colorado

Rep. Barbara Lee, California

Rep. Ilhan Omar, Minnesota